

Winter Building
Opposite Klein Building
Montgomery, Alabama

HABS No. 16-602

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District No. 16

Historic American Buildings Survey
E. Walter Burkhardt, District Officer
Ala. Polytechnic Inst., Auburn, Ala.

WINTER BUILDING
Montgomery, Montgomery County, Alabama.

51- MONG

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Ownership:

Present Owner: The Winters Estate. (John Gindrat Winter)

Previous Owners: John Gindrat and his heirs.

Date of Erection: 1841.

Architect: Unknown.

Builder: John Gindrat.

Present Condition: The structure is now used as an office building. The porch which is on the building is a later addition. Two lower stories have been entirely changed. partitions have been added throughout. There is very little of the original building left except the outside frame.

Number of stories: Three.

Materials of Construction: The exterior walls are of brick; the interior walls are generally plaster.; the floors are of pine. The roof is of metal with standing seams.

Other Existing Records: There is a picture of the burning of the Capitol, December 14, 1849 taken from a daguerreotype by A. D. Park, taken from the court house during the conflagration. The picture was published by A. D. Park and Samuel Swan. The lithographers were Sarony and Major of New York.

There is a picture of a street scene in Montgomery in the early fifties in Mile Stones Along Alabama's Pathway, by Peter Brannon, on page 92. This picture also includes a view of the Winter Building. The negative of this picture is owned by Tressler.

Additional Data: The Winter Building is a very nice example of restrained design, the spacing and proportion of the windows is most excellent in the upper story. It has a very beautiful cornice detail. The porches which were obviously a later addition have destroyed the restraint and simplicity which the original building must have had. It is a fine example of a modest commercial building of that period. Indications are that shutters were originally on the windows and their removal has taken some of the early southern character out of the facade. The building has an historical importance as well as an architectural one. The message was sent by the Secretary of War from this building to General Beauregard at Charleston which resulted in firing on Ft. Sumpter. The Southern Telegraph was on the second floor.

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